

BRENTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MAY 10, 2022

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL FOR QUORUM

President Wright called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Board members present: Ed Wright (President), Jeanette Oesterly (Treasurer), Kathy Ryan (Vice President), Cindy Bechtel (Secretary), Beth Miller Erman, Angela BoClair, Kelsey Burkemper, Lori Ashmore-Ruppel, and Garry Truman. Also present: Gina Gibbons (Library Director) and Kathy O’Neill (Board of Aldermen Liaison). A quorum was present

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF APRIL 2022 MINUTES

Due to the unavailability of the April Board minutes, it was suggested by E. Wright and agreed to by the Board that we postpone approval of the April 2022 public minutes and the April Executive minutes until the June 2022 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were submitted. President Wright stated that public comments will be accepted by email or in person (when possible) to the Library Director.

ALDERMANIC LIAISON REPORT

K. O’Neill reported that there is much traffic on Eulalie and the area around the Manchester closure. Parking spaces are tight. Rosalie Avenue is now open and not directly affecting the traffic flow. Director Gibbons also contributed her discussion with the Fire Chief about improving the congestion in nearby Brentwood Bound construction areas.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT

G. Gibbons reported that the National Library Worker’s Day was celebrated on April 5, 2022 (with food!). Gina represented BPL at the YMCA Healthy Kids Day on April 30, with book give-aways, making library cards, and talking about the importance of libraries. She plans to participate in 2023. BPL will organize the MLC Pride Booth in Tower Grove Park in September, with several Library staff organizing. The event will be for 2 days this year, and money from MLC’s outreach budget will finance prizes, T-shirts and craft supplies. June 6 is the beginning of Summer Reading Club for all ages, with an ice-cream truck, “The Flying Debris” juggling act, with the location at Broughton Park. About 55 people have pre-registered. The Club opens on May 15, with several prizes (and surprises!) from some local sponsors (Andy’s Custard, Magic House, the Cardinals, and Brentwood Parks and Recreation). Sam and Trenice continue replying letters with the Reference for Mail in assisting incarcerated individuals. At this point there are approximately 572 letters (from late 2021 to the current date. Finally, congratulations to Sam for completing her MILS degree!!

OLD BUSINESS – Subcommittees

Facilities committee: There was a meeting with the committee and Arcturis on May 16, to discuss advances in the current plan. There was also a joint meeting with some of the BPL committee members and representatives from Brentwood City Administration. The discussions were helpful and productive. There will be other meetings scheduled soon.

Safety committee: The committee discussed the format of the new Safety Plan, which was emailed to all Board members. After discussion among the Board members, it was agreed to review and approve the Safety Plan at the upcoming June meeting. In addition, there is a template for a Library Incident Report, which will be discussed at the next Board meeting on June 14, 2022, and will include incident details and review of the written and online documents by the Library Director. There will be a dedicated file for each incident report plus a minimum retention period. The committee will continue to schedule safety training and safety practices for the Library and staff.

Employee Handbook: No report

Community Relationship: K. Ryan discussed the importance of attending concerts and other events sponsored by Brentwood City Park. Later in the fall, there will be Brentwood Days in the park as well as a parade from Brentwood Forest to the park.

Library Advocacy: No further events at this time. There is some question about “culture wars” involving libraries. Discussion involved being positive sources and supportive patrons.

TREASURER’S REPORT

J. Oesterly reviewed the current financials (see attached). The Library has approximately \$2.1 million in our bank. In April, the Board spent about \$41K and from January to current date, we spent \$200K. The 2022 annual budget is about \$800K. The City Finance Department and Library Attorney, Lisa Stump, recommended amending our lease with the city regarding utility payments. Gina will contact our attorney to get that done.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Board Members:

The Nominating Committee (K. Ryan and C. Bechtel) presented the process for election of the new Board of Trustees officers, following protocol. There were four candidates who came forward, one for each officer position. No further candidates volunteered to run. A motion to elect the slate of officers was made by B. Miller Erman and seconded by C. Bechtel. On a roll call vote, all members voted aye, and the motion passed to elect all candidates. The officers are: Ed Wright (President), Jeanette Oesterly (Treasurer), Kathy Ryan (Vice President), and Cindy Bechtel (Secretary). The new Board officers were congratulated and will take office at the June 2022 meeting.

Commitment of Trustees: L. Ashmore-Ruppel, J. Oesterly and C. Bechtel confirmed their first term has been completed and each agreed to continue to serve on the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

With business completed, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by K. Ryan and seconded by G. Truman. All board members voted aye, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM. The next meeting will be June 14, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Cynthia Bechtel, Secretary